

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Kojiro Yamashita

Serial No.: 10/827,487

Confirmation No.: 3284

Filed: April 19, 2004

For: FILM TRANSFER DEVICE

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Group Art Unit: 1734

Examiner: Cheryl N. Hawkins

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED NOVEMBER 18, 2004

In response to the Office Action dated November 18, 2004, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on February 18, 2005, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/ORIO/0005/WBP the fee of \$ 200 for one additional independent claim, along with extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper. **Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper. **Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 8 of this paper.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please make to following amendments:

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Please replace paragraph [0013] with the following amended paragraph:

[0013] According to the present invention, various films different in ~~[[side]]~~ size, color, and kind which vary with the film transfer sets can be transferred to a film-transferred surface by delivering transfer tapes with films and winding up the transfer tapes after transfer.

Please replace paragraph [0020] with the following amended paragraph:

[0020] The present disclosure relates to subject ~~manner~~ matter contained in Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-360793, filed October 21, 2003, which is expressly incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

Please replace paragraph [0030] with the following amended paragraph:

[0030] ~~Embodiments of the present invention will be described below with reference to the drawings.~~ So that the manner in which the above recited features of the present invention can be understood in detail, a more particular description of the invention, briefly summarized above, may be had by reference to embodiments, some of which are illustrated in the appended drawings. It is to be noted, however, that the appended drawings illustrate only typical embodiments of this invention and are therefore not to be considered limiting of its scope, for the invention may admit to other equally effective embodiments.

Please replace paragraph [0047] with the following amended paragraph:

[0047] In the above embodiments, the case 12, constituting the film transfer device main body, is composed of a single member, however, the present invention is not

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limited to this aspect. The case 12 may be composed of a plurality of members. Moreover, an at least partial partition plate may be properly provided between the plurality of sets in order to prevent the sets from interfering with each other. Furthermore, in the above embodiments, the film transfer device is intended to be ~~disposal~~ disposable, however, the present invention is not limited to this aspect. The film transfer device can be configured so that the film transfer set 14A or 14B can be properly removed from the case 12 for replacement.

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IN THE CLAIMS:**COPY**

Please cancel the following claims:

1-6. (Cancelled)

Please add the following claims:

7. (New) A film transfer device comprising:
a plurality of film transfer sets each comprising:
a delivery section for delivering a transfer tape with a film on a substrate tape;
a transfer head for pressing the transfer tape against a film-transferred surface to transfer the film;
a windup section for winding up the transfer tape after transfer; and
a rotation transmitting mechanism for transmitting rotation between the delivery section and the windup section;
a main body containing the plurality of film transfer sets, wherein the transfer heads of the film transfer sets are arranged at respective ends of the main body, and the plurality of film transfer sets are disposed so as to overlap each other in a direction substantially perpendicular to an imaginary line joining the opposite ends of the main body together, in a manner that the rotational transmitting mechanisms of said overlapped film transfer sets are arranged outside and the delivery sections and the windup sections of said overlapped film transfer sets are arranged inside.
8. (New) The film transfer device of claim 7, wherein the delivery section of one of said overlapped film transfer sets and the windup section of the other of said overlapped film transfer sets are partitioned by a common plate constituting the delivery section and the windup section.

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9. (New) A film transfer device comprising:
a plurality of film transfer sets each comprising:
a delivery section for delivering a transfer tape having a film on a substrate tape;
a transfer head for pressing the transfer tape against a film-transferred surface to transfer the film; and
a windup section for winding up the transfer tape after transfer;
a main body containing the plurality of film transfer sets, wherein the transfer heads of the film transfer sets are arranged at respective ends of the main body, and the plurality of film transfer sets are disposed so as to overlap each other in a direction substantially perpendicular to an imaginary line joining the opposite ends of the main body together, in a manner that the delivery section of one of said overlapped film transfer sets and the windup section of the other of said overlapped film transfer sets overlap each other, and the windup section of the one of said overlapped film transfer sets and the delivery section of the other of said overlapped film transfer sets overlap each other.
10. (New) The film transfer device of claim 9, wherein the delivery section of the one of said overlapped film transfer sets and the windup section of the other of said overlapped film transfer sets are partitioned by a common plate constituting the delivery section and the windup section, and the windup section of the one of said overlapped film transfer sets and the delivery section of the other of said overlapped film transfer sets are partitioned by a common plate constituting the delivery section and the windup section.
11. (New) A film transfer apparatus, the apparatus comprising:
a case housing two or more transfer sets, each transfer set comprising:
a delivery reel mounted in the transfer set for delivering a film on a transfer tape to a transfer head; and
a wind up reel mounted independently from the delivery reel in the transfer set, the wind up reel obtains the transfer tape after delivery of the film, wherein

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the delivery reel and the wind up reel are connectable by a rotation transmitting member.

12. (New) The apparatus in claim 11, wherein the rotation transmitting member is a continuous elastic band.

13. (New) The apparatus in claim 12, wherein the continuous elastic band is connected to a first pulley and a second pulley, the first pulley connected to the delivery reel and the second pulley connected to the wind up reel.

14. (New) The apparatus in claim 11, wherein the rotation transmitting member is a gear.

15. (New) The apparatus in claim 11, wherein the transfer head contains a removable cap for protecting the transfer tape.

16. (New) The apparatus in claim 11, wherein the case is transparent.

17. (New) The apparatus in claim 11, wherein the case contains two transfer heads arranged at respective ends of the case.

18. (New) The apparatus in claim 17, wherein the transfer sets are disposed so as to overlap each other in a direction perpendicular to an imaginary line joining the opposite ends of the case.

19. (New) The apparatus in claim 11, wherein the film in each of the two or more transfer sets are of varying widths.

20. (New) The apparatus in claim 11, wherein the film in each of the two or more transfer sets are of the same width.

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21. (New) The apparatus in claim 11, wherein the film in two of the two or more transfer sets are of the same width and the film in the additional transfer sets are of varying width.
22. (New) The apparatus in claim 11, wherein the case is removable such that the transfer sets are replaceable.
23. (New) A method for transferring a film to a surface, comprising:
pressing a transfer head against the surface, said transfer head being attached to a case which contains two or more transfer sets;
the transfer tape and the film; and
winding the transfer tape, without the film, onto a wind up reel which is independently mounted apart from the delivery reel, wherein the wind up reel is wound by a rotation transmitting member attached to both the delivery reel and the wind up reel.
24. (New) The method in claim 23, further comprising moving the delivery reel and the wind up reel on one of the two or more transfer sets in unison by use of the rotation transmitting device which is a continuous belt.
25. (New) The method in claim 23, further comprising moving the delivery reel and the wind up reel on one of the two or more transfer sets in unison by use of the rotation transmitting device which is a gear.
26. (New) The method in claim 23, further comprising observing the depletion of the transfer tape by looking through the case which is transparent.

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REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated November 18, 2004, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on February 18, 2005. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

Claims 1-6 remain pending in the application and are shown above. Claims 1 - 6 have been cancelled by Applicant. New claims 7-26 have been added.

IDS

Applicant would like to note that a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was filed on December 10, 2004 for the Examiner's consideration.

Specification

Amendments to the Specification have been made and are shown above. The amendments were made to correct minor typographical errors and omissions. No new matter was added.

Claims***Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102***

Claims 1-3 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by *Kin, et al.* (JP 2003-136896). Claims 1-3 and 6 have been cancelled, thereby obviating the rejection.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Kin, et al.* (JP 2003-136896) in view of *Koreska* (U.S. 6,321,816). Claims 1-6 have been cancelled, thereby obviating the rejection.

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New Claims**COPY**

New claims 7-26 are added to better define aspects of the invention, no new matter was added. Regarding claim 7, *Kin, et al.* and/or *Koreska* do not teach, show, or suggest the film transfer sets are disposed so as to overlap each other in a direction substantially perpendicular to an imaginary line joining the opposite ends of the main body together, in a manner that the rotational transmitting mechanisms of said overlapped film transfer sets are arranged outside and the delivery sections and the windup sections of said overlapped film transfer sets are arranged inside as disclosed in claim 7 and claim 8 which depends therefrom. Therefore, Applicant believes new claim 7 and dependant claim 8 are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests allowance of the same.

Regarding claim 9, *Kin, et al.* and/or *Koreska* do not teach, show, or suggest a main body containing the plurality of film transfer sets, wherein the transfer heads of the film transfer sets are arranged at respective ends of the main body, and the plurality of film transfer sets are disposed so as to overlap each other in a direction substantially perpendicular to an imaginary line joining the opposite ends of the main body together, in a manner that the delivery section of one of said overlapped film transfer sets and the windup section of the other of said overlapped film transfer sets overlap each other, and the windup section of the one of said overlapped film transfer sets and the delivery section of the other of said overlapped film transfer sets overlap each other as disclosed in claim 9 and claim 10 which depends therefrom. Therefore, Applicant believes new claim 9 and dependant claim 10 are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests allowance of the same.

Regarding new claim 11, *Kin, et al.* and/or *Koreska* do not teach, show, or suggest a case housing two or more transfer sets, each transfer set comprising a delivery reel mounted in the transfer set for delivering a film on a transfer tape to a transfer head and a wind up reel mounted independently from the delivery reel in the transfer set, the wind up reel obtains the transfer tape after delivery of the film, wherein the delivery reel and the wind up reel are connectable by a rotation transmitting

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member. Therefore, Applicant believes new claim 11 and dependant claims 12-22 are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests allowance of the same.

Regarding new claim 23, *Kin, et al.* and/or *Koreska* do not teach, show or suggest a method for transferring a film to a surface comprising winding the transfer tape, without the film, onto a wind up reel which is independently mounted apart from the delivery reel, wherein said wind up reel is wound by a rotation transmitting member attached to both the delivery reel and the wind up reel. Therefore, Applicant believes new claim 23 and dependant claims 24-26 are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests allowance of the same.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the references cited by the Examiner, alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest the invention as claimed. Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



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